

What is claimed is:

1. A method for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations to an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving either directly or indirectly a donation from a contributor;

assigning the donation to a delivery lot of cash, goods and/or services;

obtaining the location of the delivery lot at one or more points in time; and

providing the location of the delivery lot to the contributor.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the receiving step includes receiving information related to the donation via the Internet.

3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the information includes a contributor's name.

4. A method according to claim 2 wherein the information includes a contributor's payment information.

5. A method according to claim 2 wherein the information includes a donation preference.

6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the receiving step includes receiving information related to the donation via the phone.

7. A method according to claim 1 wherein the receiving step includes receiving information related to the donation via email.

8. A method according to claim 1 wherein the cash, goods and/or services includes food.

9. A method according to claim 1 wherein the cash, goods and/or services includes medicine.

10. A method according to claim 1 wherein the cash, goods and/or services includes cash.

11. A method according to claim 1 wherein the location of the delivery lot is provided in response to a request from the contributor.

12. A method according to claim 1 wherein the location of the delivery lot is provided via a web site that is accessible by the contributor.

13. A method according to claim 1 wherein the location of the delivery lot is automatically provided to the contributor at the one or more points in time.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein the location of the delivery lot is provided to the contributor via e-mail.

15. A method according to claim 1 wherein the delivery lot includes one type of cash, goods and/or services.

16. A method according to claim 1 wherein the delivery lot includes two or more types of cash, goods and/or services.

17. A method according to claim 1 wherein each donation is assigned to a unique delivery lot.

18. A method according to claim 1 wherein two or more donations are assigned to a common delivery lot.

19. A method according to claim 1 wherein the obtaining step includes obtaining the location of each delivery lot at two or more points in time, each corresponding to a different location.

20. A method for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations to an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving either directly or indirectly two or more donations from two or more contributors;

assigning each donation to a delivery lot of cash, goods and/or services;

obtaining the location of each delivery lot at one or more points in time; and

providing the location of a delivery lot to one or more contributors, each contributor receiving the location of the delivery lots that correspond to the contributor's donations.

21. A method according to claim 20 wherein each donation is assigned a unique ID, and each contributor provides or selects the unique ID to receive the location of the corresponding delivery lot.

22. A method according to claim 21 wherein each contributor provides or selects the unique ID via a web site.

23. A method according to claim 20 wherein the obtaining step includes obtaining the location of each delivery lot at two or more points in time, each corresponding to a different location.

24. A system for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations to an organization, the system comprising:

means for receiving either directly or indirectly a donation from a contributor;

means for assigning the donation to a delivery lot of cash, goods and/or services;

means for obtaining the location of the delivery lot at one or more points in time;

and

means for providing the location of the delivery lot to the contributor.

25. A method for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations to an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

assigning selected donations to a common delivery lot for delivery to an ultimate destination; and

reporting information relating to the delivery of the delivery lot to contributors whose donations have been assigned to the delivery lot.

26. A method according to claim 25 wherein the contributors include individuals.

27. A method according to claim 25 wherein the contributors include organizations with organization members.

28. A method according to claim 25 wherein information relating to the delivery of the delivery lot is reported to one or more members of the contributing organizations.

29. A method according to claim 25 further comprising the step of:

providing a chat room so that the contributors that provided donations to a common delivery lot can communicate with each other.

30. A method for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations to an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying one or more delivery lots that need to be funding;

allowing contributors to select one or more of the available delivery lots, and provide a donation thereto; and

sending a funded delivery lot once the delivery lot is fully funded.

31. A method according to claim 30 further comprising the step of:  
obtaining location information for the funded delivery lot after the funded delivery lot is sent; and  
providing the location information to those contributors that provided donations to the funded delivery lot.

32. A method for increasing the participation of contributors that provide donations, wherein the donations are assigned to one or more delivery lots of cash, goods and/or services, the method comprising:

obtaining the location of the delivery lot at one or more points in time; and  
providing the location of the delivery lot either directly or indirectly to the contributor.